

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 and 5 are presently active in this case. Claim 3 has been amended and Claim 4 has been cancelled by way of the present amendment.

Claims 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,573,728 to Loesch et al.


Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 1 and 2 are allowable and that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, regarding claim 5, because Applicant believes that claim 3 is allowable in its present form, claim 5 has not been rewritten in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the courtesy of an interview granted to Applicant's attorney on August 05, 2003 at which time the outstanding issues were discussed. At the conclusion of the interview, the Examiner indicated that she would reconsider claim 3 if it were rewritten to include the limitations of dependent claim 4. Applicants have rewritten claim 3 as discussed and respectfully request reconsideration thereof.

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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